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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference m80555798:BGC:mc			Transmittal of International Preliminary rt (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No.	International Filing Dat		Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/AU2003/000968	(day/month/year) 1 August 2003		1 August 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or	national classification an	d IPC	·
_	; H01B 7/29, 7/295		
Applicant	<u> </u>		
POLYMERS AUSTRALIA PT	Y LIMITED et al		
This international preliminary examinist transmitted to the applicant according.	ation report has been preping to Article 36.	pared by this Interna	tional Preliminary Examining Authority and
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	3 sheets including this o	cover sheet.	·
	IL. AND TO VEC in chee	te of the description	, claims and/or drawings which have been
This report is also accompanied amended and are the basis for the 70.16 and Section 607 of the A	his report and/or sheets co	ntaming recuircanc	ons made before this Authority (see Rule
These annexes consist of a total of 1 sheet(s).			
3. This report contains indications relati	ng to the following items:	• •	
I X Basis of the report			·
II Priority			
III Non-establishment of	opinion with regard to no	velty, inventive step	and industrial applicability
IV Lack of unity of inven			
V X Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
VI Certain documents cited			
VII Certain defects in the international application			
VIII Certain observations on the international application			
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion	n of the report
2 February 2004		9 November 200	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU	•	Authorized Officer	
AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE			
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustralia.gov.au N.L. KING			
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		Telephone No. (0	2) 6283 2150
Total Control			

<u> </u>
International application No.
PCT/AU2003/000968

With regard to the elements of the international application.* the international application as originally filed. X	I.	Basis of the report	
the international application as originally filed,	1.	With regard to the elemen	nts of the international application:*
pages , filed with the demand, pages , received on with the letter of X the claims, pages 28-30 & 32, as originally filed, pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19, pages , filed with the demand, page 31, received on 1 November 2004 with the letter of 1 November 2004 X the drawings, pages 1, as originally filed, pages , filed with the demand, pages , received on with the letter of the sequence listing part of the description: pages , received on with the letter of the sequence listing part of the description: pages , received on with the letter of the sequence listing part of the description: pages , received on with the letter of the sequence listing pages , received on with the letter of the sequence listing application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is: the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international segueth (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3). With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: contained in the international application in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequenc		the international ap	plication as originally filed.
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/000968

v.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations
	and explanations supporting such statement

١	and explanations supporting such statement		
	1. Statement		
1	Novelty (N)	Claims 1-38	YES
		Claims	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-38	YES
		Claims	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-38	YES
		Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

D1 JP 53016758

D2 JP 09055125

D3 JP 2001035267

NOVELTY(N) Claims 1-38

Claims 1 and 19 define fire-resistant compositions comprising a silicone polymer, 5-30% mica and 0.3 - 8% glass. Claim 35 defines an electrical cable comprising a silicone polymer, 5-30% mica and 0.3 - 8% glass. As explained on pages 4-5, the presence of glass results in the formation of a stronger ceramic material but the amount is limited to 8% because larger amounts give rise to unacceptable shrinkage on heating to temperatures greater than 1000°C.

Closely-related art appears in each of the above citations which describe wires with fire-resistant coatings comprising a silicon polymer, mica and glass. Mica contents are within the required range. However, in D1 and D2 the amounts of glass exceed 8% of the composition, while in D3 glass is present in the required range but only in comparison examples 2 and 3 and not in examples of the invention.

Consequently, the claims are not deprived of novelty by the above citations.

INVENTIVE STEP(IS) Claims 1-38

Claims 1-38 involve an inventive step because it would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art to prepare fire-resistant compositions comprising a silicone polymer, mica and glass in the amounts claimed.

- 27. The composition according to claim 19, further comprising at least one fire retardant material selected from the group consisting of zinc borate, magnesium hydroxide or aluminium hydroxide.
- 5 28. A fire resistant composition of claim 1 or 19, wherein:

the limited amount of glass additive is sufficient to ensure the formation of a self supporting porous ceramic material at temperatures above the decomposition temperature of the silicone polymer and below the fire rating temperature of the composition.

- 29. The composition of claim 28, wherein the fusion temperature of the composition is above the fire rating temperature.
- 15 30. The composition of claim 28, wherein the composition undergoes a volume shrinkage of less than 10% when heated to the fire rating temperature.
 - 31. The composition of claim 28 wherein the composition undergoes a volume shrinkage of less than 5% when heated to the fire rating temperature.

32. Use of a composition as claimed in any one of claims from 1 to 31 as a firewall lining, a fire partition, a screen, a ceiling or lining, structural fire protection, a fire door insert, a window or door seal, an intumescent seal, or in an electrical switchboard cabinet.

33. Use of a composition as claimed in any one of claims from 1 to 31 for coating of an electrical conductor.

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